

CPYRGHT



Air Force WU-2 Wreckage Recalls Powers Questions

USAF/Lockheed WU-2 reconnaissance aircraft (AW Aug. 12, 1963, p. 72), flown by a Chinese Nationalist pilot, crashed and was destroyed Aug. 14 while on a routine training flight. The pilot, who ejected, received minor injuries. Crash of the aircraft, which was assigned to Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., occurred about 10 mi. southeast of Boise, Ida. Note relative integrity of the aircraft despite fact that pilot had ejected. The wreckage recalls questions raised after the Soviet photos published of the U-2 flown by Francis Gary Powers brought down inside Russia (AW May 30, 1960, p. 32; May 23, 1960, p. 33). At that time, the Soviets explained the condition of the U-2 was a result of its extremely light titanium structure allowing it to float to ground without complete disintegration (AW June 6, p. 28).

AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY, August 24, 1964